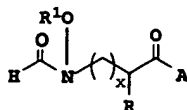


A compound of the formula



x is 0 or 1,

R is H, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl-(CH₂)_p-,

heteroaryl-(CH₂)_p-, cycloheteroalkyl-(CH₂)_p-, or

10 R can be joined together with the carbon to
which it is attached to form a 3 to 7 membered ring
which may optionally be fused to a benzene ring;

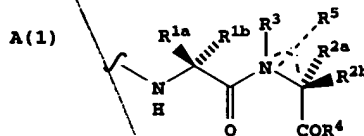
R¹ is H or -COR² where R² is alkyl, aryl-
(CH₂)_p-, cycloheteroalkyl-(CH₂)_p-, heteroaryl-(CH₂)_p-,

15 alkoxy or cycloalkyl-(CH₂)_p-;

p is 0 or an integer from 1 to 8; and

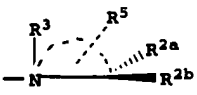
A is a dipeptide derived from one or two non-proteinogenic amino acids or is a conformationally restricted dipeptide mimic.

20 2. The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein
A is a dipeptide derivative of the structure



25 wherein R^{1a}, R^{1b}, R^{2a} and R^{2b} are independently selected from H, alkyl, aryl-(CH₂)_p-, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl-(CH₂)_p-, heteroaryl-(CH₂)_p-, biphenylmethyl, or

R^{1a} and R^{1b} or R^{2a} and R^{2b} may be joined together to the carbon to which it is attached to form a 3 to 7 membered ring, optionally fused to a

benzene ring; and  refers to an optional 5 or 6 membered ring containing a single hetero atom and which may optionally include an R⁵ substituent which is H, alkyl, aryl-(CH₂)_p, cycloalkyl-(CH₂)_p, cycloheteroalkyl-(CH₂)_p or cycloheteroaryl-(CH₂)_p;

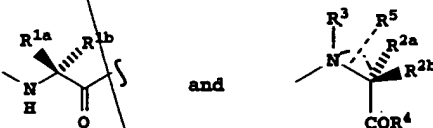
R³ is H, alkyl or aryl -(CH₂)_p;

R⁴ is OH, Oalkyl, Oaryl-(CH₂)_p- or NR₁(R₂)

where R₁ and R₂ are independently H, alkyl, aryl,

10 aryl(CH₂)_p or heteroaryl(CH₂)_p;

with the proviso that in A(1) at least one of



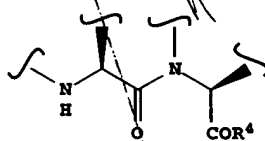
is other than a natural α-amino acid.

15 3. The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein A is a conformationally restricted dipeptide mimic.

4. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein the conformationally restricted dipeptide mimic has the structure

20

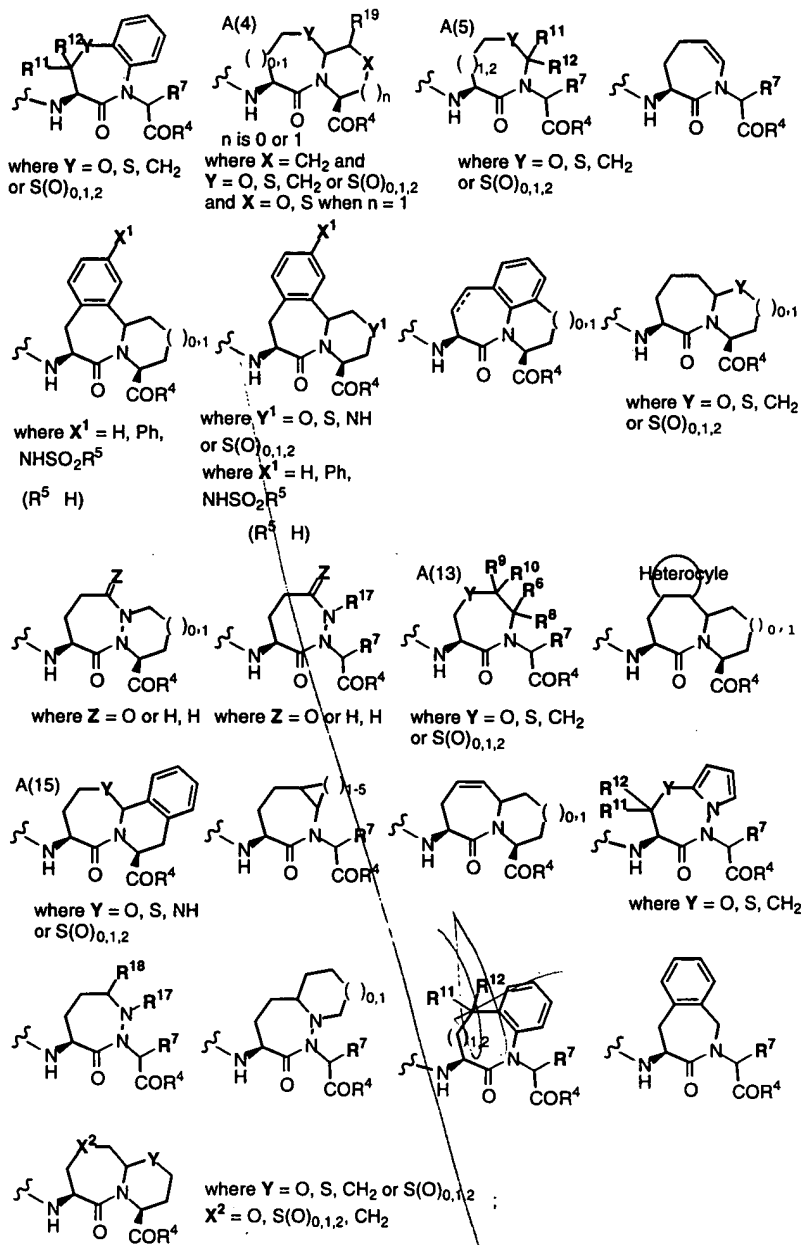
A(2)



5. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein A has the formula

25

08833172.040497

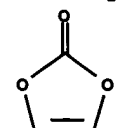


with respect to A(5), R¹¹ and R¹² are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl -(CH₂)_p-, aryl -(CH₂)_p-, and heteroaryl -(CH₂)_p-, or R¹¹ and R¹² taken together with the carbon to which they are attached complete a saturated cycloalkyl ring of 3 to 7 carbons, or R¹¹ and R¹² taken together with the carbon to which they are attached complete a keto substituent,

with respect to A(13), R⁸, R⁹ and R⁷ are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl -(CH₂)_m-, aryl-(CH₂)_m-, and heteroaryl-(CH₂)_m-;

R¹⁰ and R⁶ are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl -(CH₂)_p-, aryl-(CH₂)_p-, and heteroaryl-(CH₂)_p-, or R⁶ and R¹⁰ taken together with the carbons to which they are attached complete a saturated cycloalkyl ring of 3 to 7 carbons, R⁶ and R⁸ taken together with the carbon to which they are attached complete a saturated cycloalkyl ring of 3 to 7 carbons, or R⁹ and R¹⁰ taken together with the carbon to which they are attached complete a saturated cycloalkyl ring of 3 to 7 carbons;

R⁴ is OH, alkyl, O-(CH₂)_p-heteroaryl,

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{O} \\ \parallel \\ -\text{CH}-\text{O}-\text{C}-\text{R}^{15} \\ | \\ \text{R}^{14} \end{array}$$
, -O-(CH₂)_p-aryl or  R¹⁶ or NR₁(R₂) where R₁ and R₂ are independently H, alkyl, aryl, aryl-(CH₂)_p or heteroaryl;

R¹⁴ is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, or phenyl;
 R¹⁵ is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy or phenyl;
 R¹⁶ is alkyl or aryl-(CH₂)_m-; and

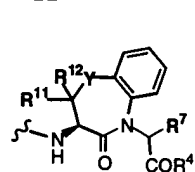
R¹⁷ is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl-(CH₂)_m-, aryl-(CH₂)_m-, or heteroaryl-(CH₂)_m-.

R¹⁸ is H or alkyl or alkenyl, and R¹⁸ and R¹⁷ may be taken together with the carbon and nitrogen to which they are attached to complete a saturated N-containing ring of 5 or 6 ring members.

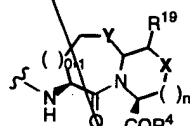
R¹⁹ is H or an alkyl, and in A(4), R¹⁹ and X (which is CH₂) together with the carbons to which they are attached may form an aromatic ring of carbons (as in A(15)).

6. The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein A is

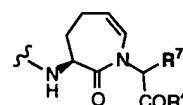
Sub
H₂



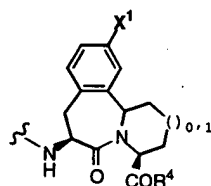
where Y = O, S, CH₂, S(O)_{0,1,2}



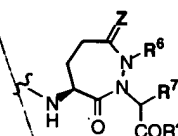
where n is 0 or 1
where X = CH₂ and
Y = O, S, CH₂ or S(O)_{0,1,2}
and X = O, S when n = 1



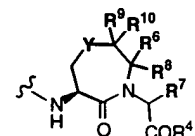
15



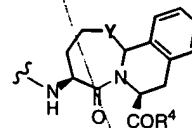
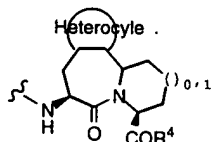
where X¹ = H, Ph,
NHSO₂R⁵
(where R⁵ = H)



where Y = O, S, CH₂, S(O)_{0,1,2}
where Z = O or H, H

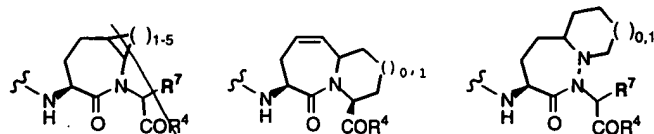


where Y = O, S, CH₂, S(O)_{0,1,2}



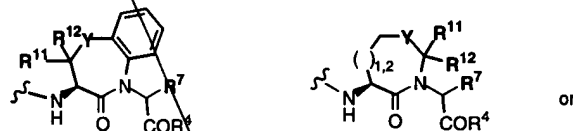
where Y = O, S, NH, S(O)_{0,1,2}

08833172, 040449



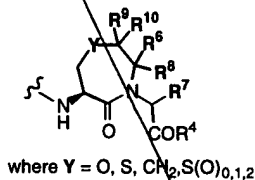
7. The compound as defined in Claim 6 wherein

A is



5

where Y = O, S, CH₂, S(O)_{0,1,2}, where Y = O, S, CH₂, S(O)_{0,1,2}

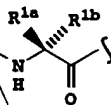


8. The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein

10 R¹ is H, R is alkyl or arylalkyl, R⁴ is OH.

9. The compound as defined in Claim 2 where

in A(1)



is a non-proteinogenic amino acid portion.

15

10. The compound as defined in Claim 9

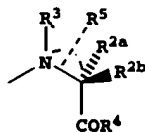
wherein R^{1a} and R^{1b} are independently alkyl or arylalkyl, or R^{1a} and R^{1b} together with the carbon to which they are attached form a 3 to 7 membered ring; or one of R^{1a} and R^{1b} is biphenylmethylene and the other is biphenylmethylene or H.

20

11. The compound as defined in Claim 9 where

in A(1),

08833172.040497



is a non-proteinogenic amino acid where R^3 is H, alkyl or arylalkyl,

- R^{2a} and R^{2b} are independently selected from H, alkyl, aryl or arylalkyl, with at least one of R^{2a} and R^{2b} being other than H, or R^{2a} and R^{2b} together with the carbon to which they are attached form a 3 to 7 membered ring.

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

13. The pharmaceutical composition as defined in Claim 12 useful in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases such as hypertension and/or congestive heart failure.

14. A method of treating a cardiovascular disease such as hypertension and/or congestive heart failure, which comprises administering to a mammalian species a therapeutically effective amount of a composition as defined in Claim 12.

15. The compound as defined in Claim 1 which is

